

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Office Action dated February 18, 2004, where the Examiner has rejected claims 1-35. By the present amendment, claims 1, 12, 15, 29 and 35 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-35 are pending in the present application. Reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 1-35 in view of the amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

A. Rejection of Claims 15-20, 24-28 and 29-35 Under 35 USC §102

The Examiner has rejected claims 15-20 and 24-28 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Kemmochi (U.S. Patent Publication No. 20020183016) ("Kemmochi '016"). The Examiner has further rejected claims 29-35 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Kim (U.S. Patent Publication No. 20020207033) ("Kim '033"). Applicant respectfully disagrees; however, in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, applicant has amended independent claims 15, 29 and 35. For the reasons that follow, applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-35 are patentably distinguishable over the cited references.

As amended, claim 15 specifies a wireless communications device including an antenna, a diplexer coupled to the antenna, a switching module coupled to the diplexer, a global positioning system (GPS) module, and a personal communications service (PCS) band diplexer. Claim 15 has further been amended to specify that the switching module is adapted to selectively couple the diplexer to one of the GPS module and the PCS band diplexer. Claim 29 has been amended to specify similar limitations. Specifically, claim 29 has been amended to specify switching, via the switching module, the combined signal to one of a GPS module and a communications band circuit. Thus, when communications bands reception/transmission (e.g.,

PCS band communication) is desired, the switching module connects the diplexer to the communication band circuit (e.g., PCS band diplexer) while disconnecting the diplexer from the GPS module. Conversely, when GPS reception is desired, the switching module connects the diplexer to the GPS module while disconnecting the diplexer from the communication band circuit (e.g., PCS band diplexer).

In contrast, the disclosures of Kemmochi '016 and Kim '033 fail to disclose or remotely suggest such an arrangement or operation. Significantly, Figures 10 and 11 of Kemmochi '016 fail to disclose a GPS reception module. Instead, Kemmochi '016 discloses switch 4 for coupling an antenna between either the transmit port or the receive ports of the DCS and the PCS band transceiver circuits (see, e.g., Figures 10 and 11 of Kemmochi '016). However, even if the DCS circuitry were replaced by GPS circuitry, Kemmochi '016 still fails to disclose or suggest the arrangement specified by independent claims 15 and 29, since switch 4 only separates the transmits port from the receive ports, and not the GPS band from the PCS band.

With regard to Kim '033, Figure 2 of Kim illustrates that switch 34 is not used for selectively coupling the signal received from antenna 30 to either cellular transceiver 16 or GPS receiver 14. Instead, the feed from antenna 30 is continually supplied to cellular transceiver 16. Although switch 34 may be used to additionally couple antenna 30 to either GPS receiver 14 (via port A) or ground (via port B), antenna 30 remains connected to cellular transceiver 16. Such an arrangement is a significant departure from that specified by claims 15 and 29, where the feed to/from the diplexer is coupled to one of a GPS module and a communications band circuit. As pointed out above, when communications bands reception/transmission (e.g., PCS band communication) is desired, the switching module connects the diplexer to the communication band circuit (e.g., PCS band diplexer) while disconnecting the diplexer from the GPS module.

Conversely, when GPS reception is desired, the switching module connects the diplexer to the GPS module while disconnecting the diplexer from the communication band circuit (e.g., PCS band diplexer). For these reasons, applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 15, and its corresponding dependent claims 16-28 are patentably distinguishable over Kemmochi '016. Furthermore, independent claim 29 and its corresponding dependent claims 30-31 are patentably distinguishable over Kim '033, as discussed above, and therefore, claims 15-31 should now be allowed.

With regard to claim 32, applicant notes that Kim '033 fails to disclose or suggest a triplexer. For example, paragraphs [0011] and [0019] cited by the Examiner neither describe nor suggest a triplexer. In particular, a triplexer capable of passing at least a GPS band is neither disclosed nor suggested. For these reasons, applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of independent claim 32 and its corresponding dependent claims 33-34 has been traversed, and that therefore claims 32-34 should now be allowed.

With regard to claim 35, applicant has amended claim 35 to specify a single dual-band antenna. In contrast to Kim '033 which requires the antenna to be specifically structured to receive GPS signals via either a quad-band or triple-band antenna (see, e.g., paragraph [0011] and [0019] of Kim '033), claim 35 provides reception of GPS signals without an antenna specifically structured for GPS reception (e.g., a dual band antenna for the cellular band and the PCS band) as specified by claim 35. For these reasons, applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of independent claim 35 has been traversed, and that therefore claim 35 should now be allowed.

B. Rejection of Claims 1-14, 22-23 and 33 Under 35 USC §103

The Examiner has further rejected claims 1-14, 22-23 and 33 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemmochi '016 in view of Lindemann et al. (USPN 6,553,210) ("Lindemann '210"). Applicant respectfully disagrees; however, in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, applicant has amended independent claims 1. For the reasons that follow, applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-14, 22-23 and 33 are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, considered singly or in combination.

Similar to the amendment to claim 15 as discussed above, independent claim 1 has been amended to specify that the switching module is adapted to selectively couple a signal feed from the antenna to one of the GPS module and the communications band circuitry. As discussed above, Kemmochi '016 simply discloses a switch for separating the transmits port from the receive ports, and not the GPS band from a communications band, and as such, fails to disclose the features specified by amended claim 1.

Moreover, the disclosure of Lindemann '210 fails to cure the basic deficiencies of Kemmochi '016. Lindeman '210 is only cited by the Examiner for purportedly disclosing an impedance matching circuit. Lindeman '210, like Kemmochi '016, fails to disclose or suggest a switching module adapted to selectively couple a signal feed from the antenna to one of the GPS module and the communications band circuitry, as specified by claim 1. Furthermore, applicant points out that Lindeman '210 fails to disclose an impedance matching circuit as specified by claim 1. For example, col.7:1-13 of Lindeman '210 cited by the examiner only discloses that the low noise amplifier is "laid out on a single RF substrate to provide impedance matching of the lines between components" (emphasis added). An impedance matching circuit, as specified by claim 1, however, relates to matching the impedance to the antenna feed "to more closely match

the communications antenna to GPS circuitry in the wireless communication device, thus enabling an optimal transfer of antenna signal energy to the GPS receiver.” Page 3, lines 18-20 of the present application. For these reasons, applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the combined disclosures of Kemmochi ‘016 and Lindeman ‘210. Accordingly, claim 1 and its corresponding dependent claims 2-14 should now be allowed.

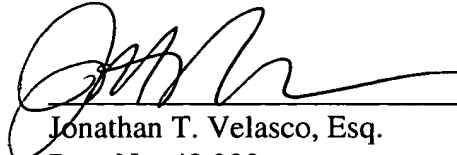
With regard to dependent claims 22-23 and 33, as discussed above, independent claims 15 and 32 are patentably distinguishable over Kemmochi ‘016, and, as such, claims 22-33 depending from independent claim 15, and claim 33 depending from independent claim 32 are, a fortiori, also patentably distinguishable over Kemmochi ‘016. Furthermore, the disclosure of Lindemann ‘210 fails to cure the deficiencies of Kemmochi ‘016. Accordingly, claims 22-23 and 33 are patentably distinguishable over Kemmochi ‘016 in view of Lindemann ‘210.

C. Conclusion

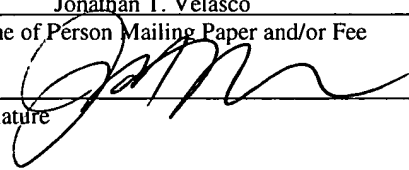
For all the foregoing reasons, an early allowance of claims 1-35 pending in the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted;

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